

she enjoyed it Above all, she enjoyed the growing sense of power and capacity which convinced her that her choice of the career of social investigator, was light In addition to interviewing school attendance officers and so on, she studied at first hand the life of the docker, whether casual or permanent, talked with dock workers of every type and with their Trade Union officials, attended meetings of diverse kinds, and showed, at this early stage, that remarkable knack of getting on easily with men of all sorts and conditions which co-exists with what some find her arrogance in purely social relationships At a meeting in the Tabernacle, Baking Road, advertised to appear and speak at a meeting of dock labourers, she had her first experience of being checked on entry, as a public character

By August she had written a report of her experiences, and in September, thanks to the introduction of Herbert Spencer, this was published in the dignified pages of the *Nineteenth Century* It later appeared in the first instalment of the Booth Enquiry, published in 1889 Encouraged by this, convinced

⁴ ^E that although I know I have no talent and am almost lacking in literary faculty, I have originality of aim and of method, and I have faith that I am on the right track, and I have the sort of persistency that comes from a deep sense of my own happiness,"

she offered to undertake another piece of work in connexion with the Enquiry This time she proposed to

investigate the Sweating system, and in
order to make
the picture that was to result not only actual
but diamatic,
determined to live for a space among the
workers, ^{tc}as
one of them "

^e Whilst yet in the county, I started to plan out my
campaign,
so that the autumn and spring holiday months
should be used